



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

MICHAEL M. CLINE
State Coordinator

JANET L. CLEMENTS
Deputy Coordinator

L. RALPH JONES, JR.
Deputy Coordinator

10501 Trade Court
Richmond, Virginia 23236-3713
(804) 897-6500
(TDD) 674-2417
FAX (804) 897-6506

DISASTER FIELD OFFICE
7401 Timberlake Road
LYNCHBURG, VA 24502
FEMA-1458-DR-VA
Commonwealth Situation Report #7
Monday, April 7, 2003

1. OPERATIONAL PERIOD:

12:00 AM *Monday*, April 7, 2003, through 12:00 AM, *Tuesday*, April 8, 2003. (*New Information is in italics*)

2. SITUATION:

A major winter storm struck Virginia beginning February 15 causing major flooding in Southwest Virginia and significant ice and snowfall in the Shenandoah Valley and areas of Northern Virginia. The weather pattern continued to bring warmer temperatures, melting snow/ice and more heavy rainfall, which combined to cause more local flooding.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency on February 16, 2003, to speed state agency assistance and resources to localities in need. The counties of Accomack, Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Essex, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester declared emergencies.

The Governor requested the federal Public Assistance program (PA) on February 28th for snow and/or flooding for the following localities: the counties of Albemarle, Arlington, Bland, Buchanan, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Essex, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Grayson, Greene, Highland, Lee, Louisa, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Alexandria, Charlottesville, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester.

The Governor requested the federal Individual Assistance program (IA) on March 4 for these winter storm events in the counties of Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Madison, Montgomery, Prince William, Roanoke including the Town of Vinton, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Roanoke, Salem and Winchester.

A Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1458-DR-VA) was declared on March 27, 2003. The counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Montgomery, Russell, Tazewell and Wise and the cities of Norton, Roanoke and Salem were designated for Individual Assistance (IA). Public Assistance (PA) is available for the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Orange and Rappahannock and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church and Winchester. A Disaster Field Office was opened in Lynchburg on March 31, 2003. The hours of operation are 7:00am – 6:00pm, daily, and closed Sundays. The DFO telephone number is 434-832-8440 and the fax number is 434-832-8544.

The Virginia Farm Service Agency (FSA) has made emergency (EM) physical loss loans available to 10 Virginia counties due to blizzard damages that occurred from Feb 15-Feb 18, 2003. Those counties are Amelia, Augusta, Culpeper, Fauquier, Highland, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Rockingham and Shenandoah. In addition to the above counties, 25 other Virginia counties/cities were named as contiguous counties/cities where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM physical loss loan assistance. Those Virginia counties/cities are Albemarle, Bath, Chesterfield, Clarke, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Frederick, Greene, Harrisonburg City, Loudoun, Madison, Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Rockbridge, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Staunton City, Warren, and Waynesboro City.

These loans to Virginia counties/cities may be made available to applicants with a qualifying physical loss in the named counties/cities effective 3/18/03 through 11/18/03.

3. WEATHER

Today. Rain heavy at times this morning, tapering to drizzle by this afternoon. Cold with highs to the mid to upper 40s. East winds 10 to 15 mph. **tonight.** Cloudy with areas of drizzle. Lows of 40 to 45. East winds 10 to 15 mph. **Tuesday.** Drizzle in the morning. Then rain in the afternoon. Cold with high in the upper 40s. East winds 10 to 15 mph. Chance of rain 80 percent.

4. CURRENT PRIORITIES:

- A. Implement strategies to distribute information to affected areas.
- B. Coordinate with FEMA for additional Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA).
- C. Coordinate with FEMA for DRC locations.
- D. Obtain signatures for the FEMA and Commonwealth Agreement.
- E. Conduct classes for selected DFO staff.
- F. Establish training component and identify Training Officer for DFO.
- G. Establish a drug and alcohol free environment.
- H. Implement Public assistance strategies.
- I. Establish the Task Force for DFO emergencies.
- J. Develop and implement DFO strategic plan.

5. ONGOING ACTIONS/ISSUES:**A. Individual Assistance (IA):**Tele-registrations:

Tele-Registrations			
Designated Jurisdictions		Undesignated Jurisdictions	
<i>Buchanan Co.</i>	<i>149</i>	<i>Amherst Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Dickenson Co.</i>	<i>88</i>	<i>Arlington Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>Botetourt Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Russell Co.</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Halifax Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Tazewell Co.</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>Henry Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Wise Co.</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>Lee Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Norton City</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Prince William Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Roanoke City</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>Pulaski Co.</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Salem City</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>Roanoke Co.</i>	<i>14</i>
	<i>470</i>		<i>22</i>

Disaster Related Deaths Reported:

Jurisdictions		Initial Reports		Validated Reports	
		No. of Fatalities	Source	No. of Fatalities	Source
1	<i>Augusta Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>News</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
2	<i>Fauquier Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>EM Coordinator</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
3	<i>Frederick Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Times Dispatch</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
4	<i>Gloucester Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Daily Press</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
5	<i>Hanover Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>VDEM PA</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
6	<i>Loudoun Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Times Dispatch</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>EM Coord</i>
7	<i>Montgomery Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Times Dispatch</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
8	<i>New Kent Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Times Dispatch</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
9	<i>Pulaski Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>VDEM PA</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
10	<i>Roanoke Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Local SitRep</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
11	<i>Shenandoah Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>Washington Post</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>EM Coord</i>
12	<i>Spotsylvania Co.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>EM Coord</i>	<i>Pending</i>	
13	<i>Warren Co.</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>EM Coord/News</i>	<i>Pending</i>	

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC) (Clients):

DRCs	Salem City	Buchanan Co		
<i>Apr 5</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Opens Apr 8th</i>		
<i>Apr 6</i>	<i>9</i>			
<i>Total</i>	<i>13</i>			

Reviewing applicant registration information in the declared jurisdictions in order to determine the need for fixed or mobile Disaster Recovery Centers to assist applicants with questions or registration issues.

DRC is at the Regional Office of the Virginia Department of Forestry, 210 Riverland Drive, Salem, Virginia 24153 Phone: (540) 387-5461 Fax: (540) 387-5462. Service hours are 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. seven days a week.

Coordination is underway for the opening of a DRC in Buchanan County with local officials and FEMA/State staff. The DRC is scheduled to open on Tuesday, April 8, 2003, pending FEMA functional area inspections, which are taking place today. Located in the County Courthouse Building on Main Street in Grundy, VA, the hours of operation will be 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. seven days a week.

Consideration is being given to locating a fixed or mobile DRC in the counties of *Dickenson*, Tazewell and Wise to serve the needs of the declared jurisdictions in SW Virginia.

Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) Validations:

On Wednesday, April 2, we contacted the Emergency Management Coordinators for non-designated jurisdictions. The new information warranted further contact with the following jurisdictions: the counties of Bland, Lee, Pittsylvania, Augusta, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Roanoke Co. (Town of Vinton), Shenandoah, Warren, Madison, and the cities of Danville and Winchester.

As such, on Thursday, April 3, we contacted each jurisdiction to notify them of the Commonwealth's plans to verify their reported damages. Each EMC was provided a description of actions to take in preparation for a visit by a State Representative. All State Representatives have been contacted and are currently coordinating their site visits.

Commonwealth Representatives have submitted IDA validation reports for **11** of 13 non-designated jurisdictions. We expect the remaining reports by end of business today. These reports *are currently under review*.

Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA):

The State Fire Marshal's Office has agreed to assist with the PDAs for Individual Assistance. *Training was conducted Sunday, April 6, 2003.*

Localities, which as a result of the validated IDA have sufficient damages in Individual Assistance categories, will be scheduled for PDA's. Reported fatalities and any subsequent unmet needs are currently under investigation as well.

PDA teams are in the field now and we expect all PDA's to be completed by COB Friday, April 11, 2003.

Local Disaster Recovery Task Forces (LDRTF):

This week, the Coordinator of the State Disaster Recovery Task Force, Department of Housing and Community Development will be meeting with established LDRTFs within the declared areas as well as meeting with localities interested in establishing a LDRTF.

Date	Localities	Purpose
<i>Monday, 4/7</i>	<i>Roanoke City, Roanoke Co., Salem City and Town of Vinton</i>	<i>Visit with existing Local & Regional DRTFs</i>
<i>Tuesday, 4/8</i>	<i>Russell Co.</i>	<i>Visit with existing LDRTF</i>
<i>Wednesday, 4/9</i>	<i>Washington Co.</i>	<i>Kick off meeting to establish new LDRTF</i>
<i>Thursday, 4/10</i>	<i>Wise Co.</i>	<i>Visit to begin establishment of new LDRTF</i>
<i>Friday, 4/11</i>	<i>Buchanan Co. and Tazewell Co.</i>	<i>Visit with existing LDRTFs</i>

B. Public Assistance (PA):

- Requesting declaration add-on for snow emergency work only the following jurisdictions
Prince William County
Shenandoah County
Warren County
City of Manassas
City of Manassas Park
- Preparing cost documentation for PDA's in areas affected by Feb. flooding.
- Twenty-four (24) requests for public assistance have been received.
- Joint FEMA/Commonwealth kick-off meetings *are being conducted* on April 7, 2003 for Fauquier County, City of Winchester, Winchester Regional Airport Authority, Town of Warrenton, Town of Orange, and Town of Gordonsville.

C. Community Relations (CR):

- FEMA / State teams have been deployed to the declared localities and briefed on Community Relations activity for the field.
- Field Officers received training in IHP (Individual and Household Program).
- Field Officers are contacting the Local Emergency Manager in the declared jurisdictions.
- Field Officers are distributing the FEMA telephone registration 1-800-621-FEMA.
- Field Officers are distributing the FEMA DRC location flyer.
- *Field Officers are continuing to assess the unmet needs/ special needs in their assigned jurisdictions.*

D. Hazard Mitigation (HM):

- Staffing finalized for Hazard Mitigation Section.
- Mitigation strategy formatted to Action Plan and calendar.
- Finalized the strategy based on the April 17 "success stories" meeting with local governments.
- Finalized the Action Plan and transfer plan elements to the April/May strategic calendar.

- Finalized briefing points for the April 7, 2003 meeting with Congressman Boucher's staff regarding the Hurley HMGP Project.
- *Editing the Public Assistance Environmental consideration document for DR 1458VA*
- *Will develop an outline for environmental/historic resources coordinating agency scoping meeting.*
- Will hold a floodplain management workshop for local officials, consultants, and others on May 6, 2003, at the Eastern Mennonite Retirement Center in Harrisonburg, VA. The Central Shenandoah Project Impact, the VA Association of Floodplain Managers, and the Department of Conservation & Recreation will sponsor the workshop. The point of contact for registration information is Jackie Miller at 804-786-0237.

E. Public Affairs Office (PAO):

- *Disseminated public service announcement (PSA) on the teleregistration number to broadcast stations in the western part of the state.*
- *Disseminated news release on the Disaster Recovery Center opening in Grundy to western media.*
- *Drafting Q & A news release about disaster assistance available to individuals.*
- *Continuing interviews with media in the western part of the state.*
- *Field public information officers continuing visits with media in Roanoke and southwestern Virginia.*

F. Legislative Liaison:

- Continue to refine strategies for distribution of information to State senators and delegates.
- Updated information for FCO/Congressional meeting on Monday, April 7, 2003 with district office staffs of Senators Allen and Warner, and with Congressman Boucher.
- In coordination with the FCO, Congressional and External Affairs plan to brief Senators Warner, Allen and Congressman Boucher.
- Previously provided information to Congressman Goode's office regarding potential add-on jurisdictions.

G. Information and Planning:

- Updating strategic priorities.

Michael M. Cline, SCO